Press release

Bracknell, Exeter, Norwich and Reading on shortlist for Met. Office relocation

14 September 2000

Release number 428

The Met. Office confirmed today that Bracknell, Exeter, Norwich and Reading form a shortlist of four towns and cities for the final location of their new headquarters. At the same time a shortlist of three bidders has been drawn up, one of which will be chosen to work in partnership with The Met. Office to design, construct and service the new building.

The successful bidder and final location will be announced early in 2001 and the new building should be operational by March 2003.

Peter Ewins, Chief Executive of The Met. Office said: "We have examined a number of possible sites around the country and are confident that each of the shortlisted sites would provide a fitting location from which to develop our business. We look forward to working with our shortlisted bidders and the people in these areas over the next few months as we move towards a final decision on the location of our new building."

Notes:

The short list of bidders is:

- M-Logic (Amey Ventures) - a consortium led by Amey construction development, Mace (construction project management) and Amey IT services;

- Stratus - a consortium led by Costain and Skanska (construction development) with Group 4 (facilities management), Logica (IT) and Bank of America;

- Prospero - led by Chesterton and Taylor Woodrow (construction development) with support from ICL (IT)

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